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**NTP Technical Report
on Toxicity Studies of**

Sodium Cyanide

(CAS No. 143-33-9)

**Administered in Drinking Water
to F344/N Rats and B6C3F₁ Mice**

**Charles D. Hébert, Ph.D., Study Scientist
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Post Office Box 12233
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**NIH Publication 94-3386
November 1993**

These studies were supported in part by funds from the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act trust fund (Superfund) by an interagency agreement with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, U.S. Public Health Service.

**United States Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health**

Note to the Reader

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) is made up of four charter agencies of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

- the National Cancer Institute (NCI) of the National Institutes of Health;
- the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health;
- the National Center for Toxicological Research (NCTR) of the Food and Drug Administration; and
- the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control.

In July 1981, the Carcinogenesis Bioassay Testing Program was transferred from NCI to NIEHS. NTP coordinates the relevant Public Health Service programs, staff, and resources that are concerned with basic and applied research and with biological assay development and validation.

NTP develops, evaluates, and disseminates scientific information about potentially toxic and hazardous chemicals. This knowledge is used for protecting the health of the American people and for the primary prevention of disease.

NTP designs and conducts studies to characterize and evaluate the toxicologic potential of selected chemicals in laboratory animals (usually two species, rats and mice). Chemicals selected for NTP toxicology studies are chosen primarily on the bases of human exposure, level of production, and chemical structure. Selection *per se* is not an indicator of a chemical's toxic potential.

The studies described in this toxicity study report were performed under the direction of NIEHS and were conducted in compliance with NTP laboratory health and safety requirements. These studies met or exceeded all applicable federal, state, and local health and safety regulations. Animal care and use were in accord and compliance with the Public Health Service Policy on Humane Care and Use of Animals.

Single copies of this report are available without charge, while supplies last, from the NTP Central Data Management (telephone number 919/541-1371).

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National Institutes of Health**

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This NTP report on the toxicity studies of sodium cyanide is based primarily on 13-week studies that took place from November 1988 through March 1989.

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PEER REVIEW

The draft report on the toxicity studies of sodium cyanide was evaluated in June 1993 by the reviewers listed below. These reviewers serve as independent scientists, not as representatives of any institution, company, or governmental agency. In this capacity, reviewers determine if the design and conditions of these NTP studies are appropriate and ensure that the toxicity study report presents the experimental results and conclusions fully and clearly. The comments of the peer reviewers were reviewed by the NTP staff and were addressed in this toxicity study report.

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